

R E M A R K S

At the top of page 2 of the Advisory Action mailed January 4, 2007, the Examiner stated the following:

"... the newly claimed limitation recites 'less than 1.8% Cr', when carbon content is 1.5% which is indefinite because steel only contains 0.3 to 1.5% Cr."

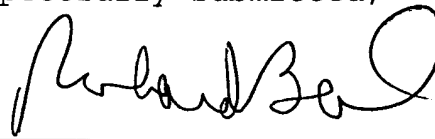
In reply thereto, applicants have provided the following discussion.

The terminology added to claims 1, 11, 12 and 17 in the AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 filed December 8, 2006 indicates a proportion of the C content to the Cr content (i.e., "a proportion of C to Cr being adjusted such that when the C content is...."). Therefore, the Cr content is less than 1.8 wt.% does not mean that Cr is actually contained in an amount of 1.8 wt.% (the maximum Cr content recited in the present claims is 1.5 wt.% Cr), but is intended to indicate the proportional relationship between C and Cr.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

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Respectfully submitted,



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RSB/ddf